

Abstract

A process for the isolation and purification of HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors from a mycelium biomass is described, which process comprises: clarifying a mycelium broth and concentrating the clarified broth to a lower volume, acidifying of the concentrate to a pH value in the range of 4.5 to 7.5, followed by extracting the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor with ethyl acetate, crystallization of the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor from a water-miscible or water-soluble organic solvent, and crystallization of the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor from an organic solvent having limited miscibility or solubility with water. The crystallization steps may also be reverse. The concept of a combination of the specified crystallization steps can also be used for the purification of a crude HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor.

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